

# THE OUTCROP.

Devoted to the Mining and Development of the Windermere and Golden Divisions of the District of North East Kootenay.

Book VI., Chapter 24.

Wilmer, B. C., Thursday, November 9, 1905.

\$2.00 Per Year.

## MORE GRADERS AT WORK

W. H. Beattie, who is driving the Golden stage, stated on his arrival Monday that when he went down last trip the force of graders employed on the Kootenay Central railway construction a few miles this side of Golden had been increased by about 50 men and 13 dump carts were in use. He is also quoted as saying that he was informed that work would be continued throughout the winter. It is thought that now the harvesting is all over on the prairie and laborers easily employed the force will be greatly increased. However that may be, the present increase of the force is encouraging and looks a little more business-like.

## Prosperity Crosses the Mountains

The Winnipeg Free Press says the first blush of returning prosperity is becoming apparent on the industries and enterprises of British Columbia, and after citing the industrial history of this province for the past ten years with all the troubles and conditions that have been mastered, it continues:

Such, then, was the actual picture of British Columbia a year or two ago. Her exchequer crippled, her development at a standstill, no new settlement taking place on her lands, no new district being opened up, capital disgusted and suspicious, and labor discontented and, therefore, aggressive. A cheering picture of a province which began the last decade of the nineteenth century with as fair a prospect as any country on the green earth.

Toddy an extraordinary change has come over the spirit of her dream. It would be hard to assign a general cause for this. A number of particular cases seem to have contributed to a general result. The Dominion government saved the lead situation by a bounty. But a bounty limited in time and amount could not in the nature of things cause much expansion, or investment of capital. Now, however, lead has slowly and steadily risen in price till the bounty is almost extinguished, and a steady high world market gives security for all possible expansion of production. Old mines are being re-opened and old smelters re-habilitated as a result. Then since instead of a detriment has turned out to be a factor of great commercial value. Hence activity and a beginning of dividends. Then as to copper, during the Amalgamated boom copper was at 17 cents a pound by artificial manipulation. During the recession 11 cents. Now it is 16 cents. For a low grade copper mine 11 cents means starvation but 16 cents large and steady profits. For lumber the congestion relieved itself, and the demand being still good, it is to be hoped, the lumber men are no longer discounting notes they cannot pay out of the proceeds of their business.

Naturally these developments are tempting back capital. This is seen in the building of railways, smelters and mills, the opening of new mines and old ones, as well as in the re-emergence with an actual value of investments long counted total loss.

But there is another movement on foot in British Columbia which is even more important than any of these, the movement of people on to the land. This movement is co-ordinate with and partly the result of the rush of immigration to Manitoba and the new provinces. The comparative cheapness of first land compared with the state of Washington, the large market, and the good prices obtainable, have awakened people to the opportunities of extensive farming, particularly fruit growing.

For some considerable time interest in fruit growing was centered in the Okanagan valley on account of the demonstration of its possibilities made there by Lord Aberdeen on the Coldstream ranch. But of late it is becoming more widely known that the whole of

Southern British Columbia, from the western slope of the Purcell range to the Cascade mountains, is an ideal fruit growing country, and consequently every portion of it tapped by railways is now undergoing a rapid process of development and settlement.

This has been particularly true of the Kootenay valley, in which a great number of land transfers have taken place, and a lot of settlement. The business men of the district are investing in and clearing up land, so are the miners, many of whom are working in the mines. This last is a most important movement, as it counteracts the vagrant nature of the working population. What between mines that ship their product and their profit, and miners who depart with their wages, the prosperity of a mining country, which is that and nothing more, is subject to somewhat violent fluctuations. This movement has not taken place without a considerable appreciation in land values, an appreciation still going on but which has a long way to go before it catches up with that of the adjoining states. British Columbia has still to contend with the "sea of mountains" idea. To many people it does not seem to occur that with many mountains there must be many valleys, which given a suitable climate and for the soil, must be equal to the support of a large population. It has also to contend with a great lack of proper surveys and of accurate official information about the land. But a bumper yield of fruit this year, with good prices, and profits per acre that look fabulous on paper, has started people on to the soil, and they will keep on settling in increased numbers till the valleys are populated with a prosperous and industrious class of farmers.

The meaning of this to British Columbia is important but it also has some meaning for western Canada as a whole. The present population of British Columbia is not over a quarter of a million, including Indians and Chinamen. Nearly all of it is centered in cities and mining towns. It is growing with fair rapidity. But if settlement is added to industrial development then there must be a great movement in the Pacific province, a movement which will bring it into line with Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and greatly help to augment the importance of the west in the affairs of the Dominion. All that development described is confined to the strip which lies south of C. P. R. main line. What momentum will development receive when the great vacant territory to the north is opened up?

## Rocky Mountain Goat

A Short History by M. Grant.

(Concluded from last issue.)

Within the United States the mountain goat is only found in Idaho, western Montana, Washington and Oregon. There is no evidence whatever of the white goat having existed in Wyoming.

In examining the rumors respecting the occurrence of goat one must remember that only a few years ago very little was known about this animal, and few people had seen it. In the South, escaped domestic goat and old mountain sheep were with bleached coats and straight horns, have probably been the basis of many such stories. In some places such animals have been mistaken for white goat and elsewhere, notably in Alaska, for the legendary ibex. Until the discovery and description of Dall's white sheep, in 1884, all white animals in the North were called goat and white mountain sheep were sold today in Denver city restaurants under that name.

There is no reason whatever to believe that the limits of the distribution of the white goat were ever much different from what they are now, except in outlying localities along their southern limits. The center of the greatest abundance of goat appears to be the coast ranges in British Columbia and southern Alaska and it is here that they are found low down the mountain sides and often close to salt water.

The sight of a man does not seriously disturb a goat and it seems to be of indifferent power of vision. Sounds effect it even less. The constant falling of rocks and stones and the rumble and breaking up of the glaciers, close to which it finds its home, has led the goat to distrust the warning of its ears. Shouting at a goat only arouses a slight curiosity and the report of a rifle has scarcely more effect. The hunter may sometimes stand for an hour in plain sight of a goat without disturbing it, but its sense of smell is highly developed and the slightest trace of human scent will alarm it.

These characters, together with confidence in the inaccessible nature of its habitat, born of long experience with animals other than man, have all combined to give the goat its reputation for stupidity. It probably is stupid, but less so than would appear to those accustomed to the nervousness of other game animals. The goat, like the skunk, has a severe reliance in its ability to protect itself and is accustomed to guard with indifference at enemies who threaten it from below. The large males are not lacking in bravery and will savagely fight off a dog when attacked. Stories are told of wounded goat attacking man when cornered, but most of the danger to the hunter lies in missing a foothold, or in the stones rolled down from above by a fleeing animal.

Goat are marvellously tough and can carry more load than a gazelle. It sometimes seems almost impossible to kill them and in some cases when hopelessly wounded they show a tendency to throw themselves from a cliff. This is a deliberate act on their part it is generally believed by goat hunters, but it is doubtful whether it is more than a last desperate effort to get out of harm's way.

Goat, like moose, are inclined to be solitary, but are often found in small family groups. They occasionally assemble in larger numbers in some favorite feeding ground, as many as 27 having been seen together.

The strength of the goat is enormous and while its weight is far greater than one would at first suppose, it is a matter about which we have little definite information. An average specimen from the Cascade mountains appears to weigh about 150 pounds. A six-year-old goat killed near Skagway, Alaska, showed an actual weight of 329 pounds. A much smaller animal killed at the same time and probably a female, weighed 260 pounds. Large goats from the main Rockies, in British Columbia and Schley mountains, have been estimated to weigh as high as 350 and 400 pounds.

The size of the goat is emphasized by the long and shaggy coat, which at the shoulder rises in a hump. This, taken in connection with the low-carried head, gives the animal the appearance of a

pigmy bison. The horns of the female are slightly longer and much more slender than those of the male. A little over eleven inches appears to be the extreme limit of horns for the male. The longest horns known are from British Columbia.

The mountain goat has probably a better chance of survival in a wild state than any other American game animal, except possibly the Virginia deer. It is protected even from man by the extreme ruggedness of its mountain habitat and although it will probably be exterminated in certain localities, if given a moderate amount of protection it will hold its own throughout most of its range. Its history will probably be like that of the chamois in Europe, as the country grows more populated.

## DISTRICT CROPPINGS

### And Other Items of Interest in a General Way

G. A. Starke and R. R. Bruce returned to Wilmer Tuesday after spending several days at the Nettie M. and Paradise mines. They report that Mr. Washburn struck the ledge on the Nettie M. close to the cabin while excavating for a root house, which is more than 400 feet lower down the hill than any of the other workings from where the ore already shipped was taken. A tunnel has been started at this point and already a good showing of ore uncovered, although it is not yet as clear as the ore found on the ledge higher up, yet it is improving as the work proceeds. The ore is of a similar character to ore first discovered, carrying lead, grey copper and copper. They brought down a very fine looking specimen from the new strike, weighing over 30 pounds, which is attracting a great deal of attention. The new cabin is said to be well situated and a fine large structure. Mr. Washburn has it fitted up with all home-comforts and the miners are faring well. There is no snow at the workings yet.

N. Neilson of the Big House ranch, near Windermere, spent a half hour at The Outcrop Palace one day last week discussing farming generally. Two years ago Mr. Neilson bought the Big House ranch and by plenty of hard work and the expenditure of considerable capital he has wrought wonderful changes in the property, all of which goes to show what men of experience can accomplish. While the change in the yield and appearance of the crops on this ranch have been apparent to the most casual observer and have been noted and commented on by most every person, still Mr. Neilson is not satisfied and he intends to further improve on his methods and soil. To accomplish this he is now starting in the dairy business and has bought cream separators and all the requisites necessary to good butter making and as Mrs. Neilson learned the art in Denmark a first-class article is the result already, although they have not yet started on as large a scale as ultimately intended. Mr. Neilson says he fully realizes that he cannot make big profits in the dairy business this year. He argues that when he can get from \$15 to \$20 a ton for hay it will not pay to feed it to cows and sell butter at from 30 to 40 cents a pound. He intends next year to only put in crop the amount of land he can properly cultivate himself, without hiring help. The balance of the land will be used as a pasture and given a rest, while the land cultivated will be well fertilized. Mr.

## K.C.R. PRES. POLLEN TALKS

### Complying with Building Clause of Charter --Manoeuvring for Provincial Subsidy

Mr. C. Hungerford Pollen, President of the Kootenay Central Railway Company, has just returned from a trip the Kootenay valley. When asked by a representative of the Herald if his journey, as reported, was in connection with the early construction of the Kootenay Central he said: "I earnestly hope it may be so. Everyone in the upper country seems to have some interest or other that is dependent upon transportation in the near future. Mining men from the outside are anxious about the road building as a preliminary to renewing work on old claims or acquiring new ones, and there seems likely to be an early revival of mining on Wild Horse and the St. Mary's. Mining men and their agents have been quietly looking over abandoned claims with satisfactory results and a great deal of work will commence as soon as transportation can be assured them. Owners and prospective purchasers of timber lands are anxious to extend their operations up the tributaries of the Kootenay. I heard lately in the Northwest that the farming and fruit growing prospects of East Kootenay are well understood there and that the big land syndicates have their eyes on this valley. So that it now seems beyond question that the building of the railway will be most beneficial to the people."

As to the construction Mr. Pollen said: "All that the company can do at present is to comply with the building clauses of the charter. It has been found impossible to finance on the Dominion subsidy alone as that is quite insufficient to secure the necessary bond issue. Unfortunately no special feature about the road can enable it to be built on so much less securities than other roads in the province have had, except it was done by the C. P. R. After all the talk there has been without official result of the C. P. R. taking the matter definitely in hand, I was hoping something of the kind might have crystallized, and I took the opportunity of sounding Sir Thomas Shaughnessy on his recent passage through Cranbrook. Sir Thomas said there was no likelihood that the C. P. R. could undertake to assist the Kootenay Central construction without the Provincial subsidy or its equivalent being granted. It was found that sufficient tonnage was not in readiness to make the Kootenay Central in its present condition a businesslike undertaking for the C. P. R. He added that the C. P. R. had an enormous pressure of urgent work on hand in the east and elsewhere and was not anxious to engage in fresh ventures. At the same time Sir Thomas said he would like to see the enterprise go through and would do what he reasonably could to facilitate it."—Cranbrook Herald.

Neilson believes that this will eventually prove the best and most profitable way of handling his big farm, and as he is a man who has gained his experience by many years of practical work he is no doubt right. May his earnest efforts prove the success they deserve.

Cranbrook is now a full fledged city, and "Old Man" Simpson, of the Herald should be its first mayor for he has certainly worked long and hard to make that place a city. Here's success to the newest city in B. C. and her people.

Word comes from Cranbrook that Geo. Geary has just been released from the hospital in that city, where he was confined for nine weeks with an attack of appendicitis. His many friends here will be pleased to learn of his recovery.

Miss McNeill of Sinclair spent a couple of days visiting Wilmer friends last week, and it is quite probable she will have charge of the lightning here in a short time, and remain permanently.

Another gang of 24 men arrived at Atholton on Sunday for the C. R. L. Co.'s lumber camp. More are said to be on the way up from Golden.

The O. R. L. Co. is now operating three lumber camps on the west side of Windermere lake.

Remember the dance of the 17th in the Windermere Hall.

Wm. Lewis was brought down from the lumber camps and entered the Hospital last week, suffering with a cut foot in which crystals had set in.

A circumstance happened in a school the other day, which nearly proved fatal. Two parents, one a trustee, accompanied by a parson, paid a visit to the school. The teacher, a lady who more than a dozen years ago passed her "sweet sixteen" period, appeared a little agitated at the sudden visit. The school m'am, after showing the visitors to seats, proceeded on teaching the tablet lesson to a small class. Finally she came to the word "husband", which some of the pupils could spell, but could not pronounce, much to the discomfort of the teacher. To assist she asked: "Now, what would I have if I got married?" The answer came so suddenly that she squatted on a chair, the trustee leaped to her side, ordered the window raised and a glass of water.

## Mining Records.

The following records have been made at the Wilmer Mining Recorder's office:

Nov. 7—S. J. Raster to Henry Cook, 1/4 interest in the Deuster, Outcrop, Outlet and Washburn mineral claims, July 6.

Oct. 31—Certificate of improvement, Shamrock mineral claim to Hugh Macdonald.

## THE OUTCROP.

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W. P. EVANS,

Publisher and Proprietor.

WILMER, B.C., THURSDAY, NOV. 9, 1905.

The following timely comments of the Sandon Mining Standard are in a measure applicable to this camp:

A prevailing opinion among our mining people, is that they lack capital to develop their properties. The cry is to induce outside capital to enter the camps, to develop properties and incidentally to make sales of claims in which the holding people are interested.

A camp at that stage is a poor one. Capital always asks: "If things are so good and as you represent, why do you not go ahead and make what there is to be made yourselves?" Every man to sell a property cracks up its good points. He invariably gives the snap away. People who have interests here should take this line of reasoning into consideration. Capital will not enter a venture until it is shown that the operations of interest already occupying a given district are successful. Capital reasons, that if those interests are making a return, I can too. The prevailing cry in this camp is, that nothing but clean ore, very rich will pay. No one appears to have studied as to what brought other camps to a paying basis. At present it looks to those who have studied the Slooan, as if the sole aim of the resident claim owners was to induce outside money to enter, and take advantage of the good things open on every land. The resident owner poses, without his knowing it, philanthropist for the benefit of the outside money.

The way to bring prosperity is to tackle the problems, reap the benefit, and profit will show that it is a good field for capital to enter. Then instead of supplicating capital to put in the funds, capital will enter and do the supplication act of its own accord, while the resident people can dictate conditions. This lying around and trying to induce fresh money into a camp, which is as depressed as the Slooan, is little less than ignoble.

I do not know what I may appear like to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.—Isaac Newton.

Millionaire Christians who have just planned a corner on wheat, which shall pauperize thousands of their brother men but shall swell their own millions into billions, will bow their grey heads reverently on the backs of costly pews, and glorify the name of that gentle being who was born in a manger, and who bade his followers to "Do unto others as you would that others should do unto you."—Sel.

The craze—for it seems nothing short of a craze—for sending away for goods of all kinds has already got past all reasonable bounds. This is speaking generally. In the country the people send to towns, in the towns the people send to the cities, and in the cities they send to the Old World, and so it goes—send, send, send; all the time, somewhere for something. It is high time to stop sending and to start thinking. If you want fair wages or fair profits yourself you must be willing to allow the same to your fellowmen. All across this wide Dominion the cry is heard against the "sending craze" and if the craze continues the towns and villages, with their mills, factories, stores, etc., etc., will eventually disappear, and big departmental stores will control everything and everybody.

What this old world needs is more sympathy and more encouragement. Why does a boy consider his mother his best friend? Because he can carry to her his troubles and feels that she understands and will sympathize with him. Why does this self-same boy grown to be a man seek a mate? More sympathy. The companionship and encouragement of a kindred soul. We say man (and that means woman also) marries for "love", and what is love but sympathy? The way of life is filled with dreary places. To most of us, our pathways are strewn with bitter disappointment. Our weary feet instead of treading velvet cushions of green sod, stumble over jagged rocks. It is then, that we need seek an oasis of sympathy. We long to pour into sympathetic ears the tale of our troubles, our hopes and ambitions. It is then the value of human sympathy is appreciated.

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"No person, firm or corporation shall engage or continue in the business of selling, as principal, agent, collector, or otherwise, within the Province, fruit trees, plants or nursery stock, or of importing for sale, fruit trees, plants or nursery stock into the Province, without first having obtained a license to carry on such business in the Province as in this Act provided."

All persons authorized to sell nursery stock in this Province are required by their principals or by themselves to deposit bonds, in the Department of Agriculture, Victoria, B.C., for the faithful performance of their obligations. The Public is therefore warned not to purchase nursery stock except from duly licensed persons.

Office of the Board of Horticulture,  
Department of Agriculture,  
Victoria, 20th July, 1905.

J. R. ANDERSON,  
Deputy-Minister of Agriculture,  
Secretary.

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